

Foundations of Philosophical Thought for Young Learners

Philosophy · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek philosopher is often called the 'father of Western philosophy' and is known for his method of questioning?

- A) Plato
- B) Aristotle
- C) Socrates**
- D) Epicurus

2. What branch of philosophy deals with the nature of reality and existence?

- A) Ethics
- B) Epistemology
- C) Logic
- D) Metaphysics**

3. Plato, a student of Socrates, wrote many dialogues. What is the name of the famous cave allegory, used to explain his theory of Forms?

- A) The Republic**
- B) The Symposium
- C) The Apology
- D) The Crito

4. Who was Aristotle's teacher, and what famous philosophical school did he found in Athens?

- A) Socrates; The Lyceum
- B) Plato; The Academy
- C) Socrates; The Academy**
- D) Aristotle; The Lyceum

5. What is the study of knowledge, its origins, and its limits called?

- A) Aesthetics
- B) Epistemology**
- C) Ontology
- D) Teleology

6. René Descartes famously said, 'Cogito, ergo sum.' What does this phrase translate to in English?

- A) I think, therefore I am**
- B) I doubt, therefore I exist
- C) I feel, therefore I am
- D) I know, therefore I am

7. Which branch of philosophy explores moral principles and what is considered right and wrong?

- A) Logic
- B) Aesthetics
- C) Ethics**
- D) Metaphysics

8. Immanuel Kant, a prominent Enlightenment philosopher, argued for the importance of reason and duty. What is the term for a moral command that is universally binding?

- A) Hypothetical Imperative
- B) Categorical Imperative**
- C) Moral Relativism
- D) Ethical Egoism

9. What is the philosophical study of beauty and artistic taste called?

- A) Ethics
- B) Logic
- C) Metaphysics
- D) Aesthetics**

10. Which ancient philosophical school, founded by Zeno of Citium, emphasized virtue, reason, and living in accordance with nature?

- A) Epicureanism
- B) Stoicism**
- C) Cynicism
- D) Skepticism

11. The idea that all knowledge comes from sensory experience is known as what philosophical position?

- A) Rationalism
- B) Idealism
- C) Empiricism**
- D) Nihilism

12. What is the study of the principles of correct reasoning and argumentation called?

- A) Ontology
- B) Epistemology
- C) Aesthetics
- D) Logic**

13. Thomas Hobbes, in his work 'Leviathan,' argued that without government, human life would be 'solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.' This describes his concept of the:

- A) Social Contract
- B) State of Nature**
- C) Divine Right of Kings
- D) General Will

14. John Locke, an influential Enlightenment thinker, proposed that the mind at birth is a 'tabula rasa.' What does this Latin term mean?

- A) Blank slate**
- B) Empty mind
- C) Pure thought
- D) New beginning

15. Which philosopher is associated with the concept of existentialism and the idea that 'existence precedes essence'?

- A) Friedrich Nietzsche
- B) Jean-Paul Sartre**
- C) Albert Camus
- D) Søren Kierkegaard

16. What is the philosophical inquiry into the nature and meaning of human existence called?

- A) Existentialism**
- B) Nihilism
- C) Absurdism
- D) Humanism

17. The belief that there is no God or gods is known as:

- A) Agnosticism
- B) Theism
- C) Deism
- D) Atheism**

18. Confucius, an influential Chinese philosopher, emphasized the importance of ethical conduct, social harmony, and virtues like ren (benevolence) and li (ritual propriety). What is the name of the collection of his sayings?

- A) The Tao Te Ching
- B) The Analects**
- C) The Art of War
- D) The I Ching

19. Which philosopher is famous for his thought experiment involving a 'veil of ignorance' to determine principles of justice?

A) Robert Nozick

B) John Rawls

C) Karl Marx

D) Jürgen Habermas

20. The philosophical stance that emphasizes the importance of experience and observation as the basis for knowledge is called:

A) Idealism

B) Rationalism

C) Skepticism

D) Empiricism